





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Engel et al.

Title:

CANNULA HAVING BUCKLE RESISTANT APERTURES

Appl. No.:

10/619,932

Filing Date:

07/15/2003

Examiner:

Art Unit:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date below.

Sandra Murphy

(Printed Name)

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October 28, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document, except as noted below, is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statements in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003*.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

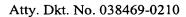
The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.







Respectfully submitted,

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MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Dumber Substitute for form 1449B/ Complete if Known INFORMATION DISCLOSURE 10/619,932 **Application Number** STATEMENT BY APPLICANT 07/15/2003 **Filing Date** Rebecca L. Engel **First Named Inventor** Date Submitted: October 28, 2003 Group Art Unit (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Sheet Attorney Docket Number 038469-0210 of

Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document			Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
	Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
A1	6,447,484	B1	Briscoe et al.	9/10/2002	
A2	6,264,645	B1	Jonkman	7/24/2001	
A3	6,071,271		Baker et al.	6/6/2000	
A4	5,984,908		Davis et al.	11/16/1999	
A5	5,817,071		Dewindt et al.	10/6/1998	
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A7	5,061,257		Martinez et al.	10/29/1991	
A8	5,021,045		Buckberg et al.	6/4/1991	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Office ³	oreign Patent [Number ⁴	Ocument Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Docume	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶			

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¹ Unique citation designation number. 2See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). *For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

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